

WILLIAM GILLETTE'S ORDEAL.
The Noisy Riotous Demonstration That Greeted Him in a London Theatre.

LONDON, Sept. 14.—When William Gillette protested last Monday night against the behavior of English audiences on first nights, and rebuked them for terrorizing their authors to such an extent that they could not be induced to come to the theatre to see and hear the reception given to their plays, he reopened a question which has been long and much debated here of late years—viz., to what extent may an audience show its disapproval of a play at the fall of the curtain? Some there are who stoutly maintain that, if disappointed, they have as much right to "boo" as those who are satisfied have to applaud. The conduct of the Lyceum audience last Monday night was, however, unanimously condemned on the following day. The uproarious minority was confined to the pit and gallery, but it was noisy enough to prevent Gillette from speaking for nearly ten minutes after he tried to start. A good many times during the course of the play there were cries of "speak up" directed to Gillette and some few, who preferred quieter methods of protest, send a card behind after the first act asking the manager to request the actor to speak more audibly. But as everyone agreed next day, the demonstration at the end of the play was unpardonable. The critics were almost equally unanimous in condemning the play itself as crude melodrama, unfitted for the theatre in which it is being played. At the same time they all prophesied that it was likely to prove a success. It may, however, be doubted whether "Sherlock Holmes" will really be a success in London. It is essentially a play for the provinces. Justified as he was in his protest against the noisy "boos," Gillette was wrong in suggesting that the demonstration was to any extent anti-American. The London audiences have not as yet shown that they care anything for the nationality of player or playwright. They only want to be entertained. At the Comedy Nat Goodwin and Maggie Elliott scored an instant success, both personal and artistic. Their acting was received with the greatest enthusiasm, and to them rather than Esmond has come the lion's share of the laurels.

The American adapted farce, "Are You a Mason?" was received rapturously. The critics, on the whole, did not speak favorably of the farce, but none would deny the warmth of its greeting. At the fall of the curtain the demand for another act was so great that he rallied off a statement that the author of the farce was in America and would receive word of its hearty reception at once by cable. Then he fled, evidently afraid of the theatre hooligan but his alarm was baseless; the house was quiet enough.

The old Adelphi now the New Century was, however, the scene of an unprecedented first night demonstration, when the curtain fell on the "Whirl of the Town" last Tuesday night. The reception of the "musical absurdity" was certainly cold as any play can be, but the audience was not unmoved. The house was quiet too when the final curtain fell. But there seemed to be something in the air, and people lingered to see what it was. Some applause was saved to be met with cries of "boo" and then there was silence. The author of the farce, in his gall, was determined to allow neither applause nor protest, and for a short while there was an amusing contest. But the applauders were not strong enough to give the "order" party much sport. It was afterward found out that the last element, the no doubt social and kind of way, was a social affair. For the occasionally "Boo" were the old Adelphi supers, their friends and their relations, who considered that such light farce as the "Whirl of the Town" was simply sacrilege on the sacred boards, where, for years, they had trod as peasants, retainers, soldiers, ruffians and what not, in pieces which gave the name of "Adelphi Drama" to a whole class of plays.

Appointments by President Roosevelt.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 21.—The President today made the following appointments: William Ridgeway, to be Comptroller of the Currency. Edward T. Hoopes, to be Assistant Paymaster of the Navy, with the rank of Ensign. Consuls—George O. Cornelius of Pennsylvania, at St. John's, Newfoundland; Alonso R. Garrett of West Virginia, at Nuevo Laredo, Mexico; Jesse H. Johnson of Texas, at Santos, Brazil. Johnson is now Consul at Coatzacoalcos, and a selection has been made for the last-named office, but is not yet announced.

Excursions.

INTERNATIONAL YACHT RACES.
THE MAINE STEAMSHIP CO.
will send its new, fast, ocean-going steamship
NORTH STAR,
4,000 tons, *launched May 16, 1901*, to the races for the America's Cup, leaving Pier (New) No. 32 East River, foot of Pike St., at 9:30 A. M.

The upper decks of this steamer, being unobstructed by deck houses, offer the very best opportunity to witness the races without change of position.

Passengers limited to 800.

FARE \$5.00.

Tickets for sale at: Maine S. S. Co. General Office, 190 Franklin.

13th & C. Agencies: Thomas Cook & Son, 1125 Broadway.

Thomas Cook & Son, 1206 Broadway.

Brown & Root, 1206 Broadway.

McGraw's Office, 71 Broadway.

Actor's Home Stand.

Excuse me.

Excuse me.